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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Albania

SUBJECT Alleged Resistance Potential Within Albania

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1. Various indications have been received as to the hope of the Albanians for outside aid: in Mavrove, two of the villagers stated that, in their opinion, Albanian refugees should return to Albania, fully armed, and bomb a few army installations so that the people could believe something was being done; in the event of such action, they added, all members of the village, including women, would be ready to fight. In Cerpat, a person of some civic standing reportedly said that the people are ready to resist activity, but that they do not have the means. A Vlone employee also stated that the Albanian refugees should return to Albania with arms and, if not supported by a foreign army, planes should bomb some bases, as well as scatter proclamations to the people, so that the people would believe that foreign assistance had been secured.
2. At Travellazer, the same opinions were voiced by members of the city, with the added suggestion that the returning Albanian refugees bring back gold with them to give to the people, as gold was the strongest weapon. In Gjinokaster, a member of the resistance underground reportedly reiterated the above opinions, adding that such leaders as Dervish Rexhepi and Halil Topulli* should take the field in leading active resistance.

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* Comment: Topulli may be identical with Hile Topelli who, according to last reports, had escaped from the Shkoder region into Yugoslavia and is now interned near Titograd.

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